

**BOROUGH OF DUMONT  
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 15, 2012  
7:15 PM**

Mayor Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:40PM  
Flag Salute led by Troop 64

**Sunshine Law:** The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey have been satisfied by the inclusion of the date, time and place of this regular meeting in the annual schedule and notice of regular meetings of this Governing Body. Such annual schedule and notice of regular meetings is posted at Borough Hall, was sent to ***The Record*** and the ***Ridgewood News***, posted on the Borough website and filed with the Borough of Dumont.

**Roll Call:** Council members Carrick, Freeman, Hayes, Stylianou, Zamechansky-present  
Mayor Kelly-present  
Councilman Brophy-absent

Motion to Accept Agenda as presented: Councilman Stylianou  
Second: Councilman Freeman  
All in favor

Presentation of **Proclamation** by Mayor Kelly and Officer DiGirolamo to Monica Gildea, retiring crossing guard.  
Presentation of **Proclamation** by Mayor Kelly to members of Troop 64 for community service.

Mayor Kelly called for a short recess.

Mayor Kelly called the meeting back in order.

**General Order of Business**

#12-144 2012 Budget Amendment

Councilman Freeman, Finance Chair, stated that as a result of the police negotiations after last week's meeting, the PBA has accepted the offer which resulted in the Borough coming in under the cap. Currently the budget is at \$131 increase per average household, which is not a final number.

Motion to adopt the Budget Amendment: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Freeman

Roll call vote: Council members Carrick, Freeman, Hayes, Stylianou, Zamechansky-yes

**Approval of Minutes:**

Motion to approve the April 17, 2012 Executive Meeting, Public Meeting and Closed Session:

Councilman Stylianou

Second: Councilman Freeman

Roll call vote: Council members Carrick, Freeman, Hayes, Stylianou-yes

Councilwoman Zamechansky-abstained

Motion to approve the May 1, 2012 Closed Session and May 1, 2012 Executive Session:  
Councilman Hayes  
Second: Councilman Stylianou  
Roll call vote: Council members Carrick, Freeman, Hayes, Stylianou-yes  
Councilwoman Zamechansky-abstained  
Motion to approve the May 8, 2012 Closed Session and May 8, 2012 Special Public Meeting:  
Councilman Hayes  
Second: Councilman Freeman  
Roll Call: Council members Carrick, Freeman, Hayes, Stylianou, Zamechansky-yes

### **Administrator's Report**

The DPW working crew will maintain Memorial Park, Sorosis Park, the garbage cans along Madison Avenue and Veteran's Plaza on Sundays.

Mr. Perkins is looking into information he received from Absolute Insurance Management, which provides financial assistance for prescription drug coverage, vehicle fees, utility and tax assistance, hearing aids and other benefits. The company will be asked to make a presentation at a Council meeting.

Mr. Perkins and Ms. Connelly met with Bergen County Health Officer Dr. Nancy Mangieri. Avoiding duplication of services with Hackensack Medical Center was discussed. Dr. Mangieri asked to make a presentation at the Board of Health meeting.

### **Council Committee Reports**

- Councilman Carrick

#### *Police Department*

The Councilman read a letter thanking Officer Brown and the Dumont Police Department for helping to locate her father.

The Dispatch Center handled 2,018 telephone calls in April. Officers issued 154 summonses. The Detective Bureau investigated 53 criminal cases.

At the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Council voted to terminate the employment of two police officers with the understanding that if they could come to an agreement, the resolution could be rescinded. Following the Council meeting, members of the police committee (Council members Carrick, Freeman and Zamechansky), labor counsel, and members of the PBA met to negotiate one more time. They worked it out and were able to save the two police officers' jobs.

- Councilman Freeman

#### *Finance*

As a result of the police negotiations, we are under the required 2% cap. The current tax increase per average household assessed at \$307,000 is \$131.00. This is not a final number.

- Councilman Hayes

No report

- Councilman Stylianou

The Councilman thanked all who participated in the negotiations the other night.

#### *Recreation*

Summer Recreation signups will continue until the end of the month. The deadline is May 31<sup>st</sup>; after that date late fees will be imposed.

Musco Lighting has completed the installation of the lights at the senior ball field.

Scoreboards, which were donated, were installed at the Little League and the Senior ball fields.

- Councilwoman Zamechansky

#### *Seniors*

They will attend a luncheon May 25<sup>th</sup> at Rockleigh Country Club

#### *Environmental Commission*

The next meeting will be held May 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### *Celebrations*

She and Councilman Brophy have been working on Dumont Day. Mariner's Bank will be sponsoring the concert again this year.

Mr. Perkins spoke of the police agreement. He said the end result was saving the positions of the two police officers and saving the taxpayers money. The agreement will lower the cost of new hires.

Councilman Stylianou stated that Mr. McQuade had come to a meeting and criticized Councilman Freeman for not going line by line in the budget, in particular speaking of the recycling coordinator position. Mr. McQuade had mentioned that the current Recycling Coordinator was a councilman in another town and that he was therefore a political hire. In fact, Mr. McQuade had voted on the hiring of this person when he was a councilman.

#### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Kelly said that the budget process is extremely difficult and thanked those involved with the police negotiations.

The Memorial Day Parade will be held May 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Review of Consent Agenda Items:** All items with an asterisk are considered to be non-controversial by the Council and will be approved by one motion. There may be further discussion prior to the vote upon request of a member of the public or a Council member. Also, any item may be removed for further discussion or for roll call vote in which case the item will be removed and considered in its normal sequence as part of the general order of business.

#### **RESOLUTIONS**

#12-133 Bills List \*

#12-134 Approval of On-premise Merchandise Raffle for St. John's Council Columbiettes to be held October 27, 2012; ID#109-6-7021, RL#367 \*

#12-135 Sherar A. Dayday-Approval as Member of Dumont Fire Department \*

#12-136 Joseph Amico-Approval as Member of Dumont Fire Department \*

#12-137 Mohammed Dhanji-Approval as Member of Dumont Fire Department \*

#12-138 John M. Litterini-Approval as Member of Dumont Fire Department \*

#12-139 NJEIT Phase II Change Order #2-Development of Health and Safety Plan-\$3,360 \*

#12-141 Approval of Dumont Project Graduation Off-premise 50/50 Raffle to be held June 20, 2012-November 3, 2012; RL#368, ID#109-5-34050 \*

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

Motion to close: Councilman Stylianou

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

Motion to adopt Consent Agenda: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Freeman

Roll call vote: Council members Carrick, Freeman, Hayes, Stylianou, Zamechansky-yes

**Non-consent Agenda**

#12-140 NJEIT Phase II-Authorization for T&M to Provide LSRP and Soils Remediation Services-not to exceed \$25,000

#12-142 Award of Bid for DPW Monopole Lease Assignment-**tabled**

**#12-143** Repeal of Resolution #12-132, Adopted May 8, 2012 terminating the positions of two police officers

Councilman Hayes stated that since he received the information tonight pertaining to the concessions by the PBA and he hasn't had a chance to fully understand them. Since he has been on the Council he was under the understanding that with the change to the twelve hour shift there were five extra police officers. He does not want to lose two police officers but he would like to know if these concessions made up the difference. Do we have too many police officers or not? He is concerned about the tax increase. He would like to wait to see if the monopole lease assignment goes through and they would then have a better understanding of the tax increase. He would like to table this so he can study the information and wait and see if the monopole income will be included.

Mayor Kelly explained that the monopole is not included in the budget. After negotiations, we have come to an agreement that would reduce the amount of money being paid to the police. Their concessions have allowed us to bring the amount of the budget down under the 2% cap. The negotiations included the police contract to be in effect until 2016. It is not just money we will save this year; it is money the Borough will save in the future as well. This is the reason it is the recommendation of the police committee that it is not necessary to release the two police officers.

Councilman Carrick explained that for every \$100,000 saved translates to \$18.00 savings per household. Early on, when it would have meant a full year's savings, he would have agreed to let the two police officers go but at this point it would cost \$9.00 to keep the two police officers. They will start on next year's budget much earlier.

Motion to adopt Resolution #143: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Freeman

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Stylianou

Second: Councilman Freeman

1. Sal Maurice, 25 Druid Avenue, asked for an explanation of Resolution #132.

Mayor Kelly replied that the resolution was for the dismissal of the last two hired police officers.

Motion to close: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Freeman

Roll call vote: Council members Carrick, Freeman, Stylianou, Zamechansky-yes

Councilman Hayes-abstained

Motion carried.

**Resolution #140**-NJEIT Phase II-Authorization for T&M to Provide LSRP and Soils Remediation Services-not to exceed \$25,000

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Stylianou

Second: Councilman Freeman

1. Kai Chen, 90 Teak Road, asked if this authorization would mean that the DEP would no longer provide oversight.

Mr. Perkins replied that the LSRP acts as an agent of DEP; all reports have to be submitted to the DEP; they have to do the final signoff.

Motion to close: Councilwoman Zamechansky

Second: Councilman Freeman

Motion to adopt Resolution #140: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Stylianou

Roll call vote: Council members Carrick, Stylianou, Zamechansky-yes

Councilman Hayes-no

Councilman Freeman-abstained

Motion carried.

## **ORDINANCES**

### **First Reading**

**#1442** Amendment of Chapter 114 Amusements of the Borough Code to include Juke Boxes

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilwoman Zamechansky

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

There was no discussion from the Council.

Motion to pass on first reading: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Freeman

Roll call vote: Council members Carrick, Freeman, Hayes, Stylianou, Zamechansky-yes

**#1443** Amendment of Chapter 193 Dry-Cleaning Establishments of the Dumont Code to Laundromats

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Stylianou

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

There was no discussion from the Council.

Motion to pass on first reading: Councilman Stylianou

Second: Councilman Freeman

Roll call vote: Council members Carrick, Freeman, Hayes, Stylianou, Zamechansky-yes

Motion to open to the public-general participation: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Stylianou

1. Barbara Correa, 240 Larch Avenue, thanked Councilman Stylianou for being persistent in opening discussions with the PBA. She stated that it is important that a Council member have the facts when they have a discussion with anyone. Council members need to have all the information; otherwise it can cause unnecessary commotion for not only the Council, but for the community.
2. Sandy Fernandez, 199 Summit Avenue, explained that for about one and a half years she had attempted to garner funds from CSX Railroad for damages she believes they did to the fence at the high school. A few weeks ago CSX made a contribution to offset the costs of replacing the fence. Ms. Fernandez, as chair of the maintenance committee for the Board of Education, thanked Mr. Perkins for his assistance.
3. Carl Manna, 108 Harding Avenue, thanked the Finance Committee for their efforts on a difficult task. He asked whether the monopole and recycling revenues were included in the budget. He said they avoided a bullet with the situation with the PBA but wondered

how long it will be before they are in the same position. He suggested shared services with neighboring municipalities.

4. Sal Maurice, 25 Druid Avenue, said he has a report from LUARCC (Local Unit Alignment Reorganization and Consolidation Commission). He stated that on a national level it is suggested that a town have two police officers per 1,000 residents. That would be 34 ½ in Dumont. He was told that we have 34, including the Chief. He asked if police officers make \$100,000 average salary. The response was that it was a little more than that. He compared sleepy Dumont to Irvington where the officers make \$85,000 and get shot at. He said if they want to lower the budget, they should lower the police officers' base pay. If they don't want to negotiate, let them go on strike and then in six months hire new officers. Mr. Maurice said that the government needs to be transparent down to the dime. He asked why rifles were needed for the police department and why they need new cars.

Mr. Maurice asked about the status of the contaminated field at TwinBoro Field. He still would like to know who brought in the contaminated dirt.

5. Carl Manna, 108 Harding Avenue, took exception to Mr. Maurice's comment-every dime that comes through the finance office and is paid out is accounted for. If someone wishes to see something specific, they can just ask for it.
6. Sal Maurice, 25 Druid Avenue, said he has a lot of respect for the men in blue. If you watch the news, police officers in Irvington, Newark, etc. are getting shot at.

Mayor Kelly requested a motion to close to the public: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Freeman

The Mayor wished to remind people that the salaries the police have today, have been negotiated over many years. It was at a time when the economy was very good and taxes were not that high. You can't now go to them and tell them they will be making less money. You must start with the incoming officers. You can work on their benefit contributions, etc. He agreed with Mr. Manna that combining services with other towns will probably become mandatory. When one looks at the budget, the police command a large portion of the municipal budget. Therefore, it's natural to center on that because if cuts are made there, a lot of money can be saved at one time. In the coming year, the Council will work closely with the police to see what ways they can help each other. They will not wait until the last minute.

Councilman Stylianou commented that although Councilman Carrick led the charge to lay off two police officers, he also led the charge to meet with the PBA to save their jobs.

Motion to adjourn: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Freeman

Meeting adjourned at 9:15PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Susan Connelly, RMC  
Municipal Clerk